

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is being submitted in connection with a continuation of copending application serial number 09/618,320 filed on July 18, 2000.

Entry is respectfully requested.

A telephone interview is respectfully requested prior to the first action on the merits.

09/618,320 "944ET860

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The paragraph beginning on page 1, line 5 has been amended as follows:

This application [claims priority from U.S. provisional application serial number 60/038,172 filed on February 13, 1997] is a continuation of application serial number 09/618,320 filed on July 18, 2000, which is a continuation of application serial number 09/022,591 filed on February 12, 1998, now U.S. Patent 6,097,859, which claims priority from provisional application serial number 60/038,172 filed on February 13, 1997. This application is also related to co-pending application serial number 09/748,025 filed on 12/21/2000, co-pending application serial number 09/766,529 filed on 01/19/2001, and co-pending application serial number 09/780,122 filed on 02/08/2001.

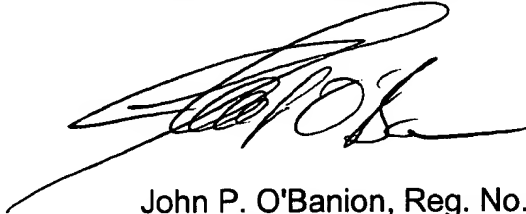
The paragraph beginning on page 16, line 17 has been amended as follows:

Referring now to FIG. 6 and FIG. 7, the fiber-optic switch, being symmetric about [it's] its center, can be implemented with a symmetry mirror 58 in the symmetry plane 60. This essentially cuts the component count in half. The output channels may either be on the input fibers and separable by optical rotators (not shown) or on a separate output fiber array (not shown) that is placed above the input array. In the latter case, the micromirror array 62 and the symmetry mirror 58 are slightly tilted about an axis, such that the light is directed to the output fiber array.

Date:

3/20/01

Respectfully submitted,



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